

C1885-032 Chancery Causes: Louisa J. Lewis vs. Hiram Lewis  
Lee Co.

Adams, Haynes, Rutherford, Fleenor, Thompson C.H.

CA-Divorce

T-Vices



To the Honorable, John A. Kelly, Judge of the  
Circuit Court of Lehigh County:

Your Oratrix, Louisa J. Lewis,  
humbly complaining would respectfully  
represent unto your honor:

That in the year 1872 she  
intermarried with one Shiram Lewis,  
with whom she lived happily for  
about ten years, when he for cause un-  
known unto your oratrix left this  
home and broke off the matrimonial re-  
lations and has ever since remained and  
lived away from your oratrix and their  
family, consisting of two children, which  
children have ever since his abandon-  
ment, been supported and maintained  
by her, and it seems he has utterly  
totally and forever abandoned them.

Your oratrix, further alleges in  
oath, that the said Shiram  
with whom your oratrix  
lived, has since his  
desertion of her, lived  
with women, kept the  
company of notorious pro-  
stitutes for some time ma-  
king the house of a woman  
a woman of much  
living in open notorious



Your oratrix has passed  
this hardship and submitted  
to the reproaches of a  
with the hope that  
became ashamed of  
return to your oratrix  
fails to either return  
the society and inter-  
course of her women; these  
oratrix feels herself constrained  
invoke the intervention of your honors  
court's conscience in her behalf.

Now the object of this bill is to  
obtain a divorce "a vinculo matri-  
monii", to effect which your oratrix  
prays, that the said Hiram Lewis  
be made a party defendant to this  
bill; that he be required to render  
a full and true and perfect answer to  
the same upon his Corporal oath;  
that your oratrix may be entirely  
divorced from him and the marriage  
declared forever dissolved. And for  
all other, further and general relief  
as this her cause requires, and to eg-  
uity may seem fit and proper.  
And may a summons issue against the  
said defendant herein before  
named. And your oratrix will  
ever pray &c

L. T. Bureau

P. 2.



Louisa J. Lewis

vs. Bill in chcy.

Hiram Lewis,

1885 May Bill Filed

" June Spd Exd + Dctm

" July Court Confd

" Aug Cause set for hearing

" Aug Term Recd in final

1890 to 1900

L. 5.07

S 1.50

Spd 1.75

Wrt 1.50

A 15.00

\$23.82

L 6.00

29.82

Louisa J. Lewis

vs. Hiram Lewis

Hiram Lewis



Louisa J. Lewis      Pltff

vs

Hiram Lewis      Deft

in chancery

This cause came on this day to be heard upon the bill of the complainant, the deposition of witnesses and was argued by counsel. It appearing <sup>to the court</sup> that process has been duly served upon the defendant for more than 30 days before the first day of this Term and that he has failed to appear answer plead or demur the bill is taken for confessed as to him. On consideration of all which the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between the plaintiff and Defendant are dissolved, a vinculo matrimonii. But the Defendant Hiram Lewis is inhibited and restrained from contracting again marriage in this state. And it is further adjudged that the plaintiff recover from the defendant her costs in this behalf expended for which execution may issue and this cause is stricken from the docket.



Louisa J. Lewis

vs.  $\frac{1}{3}$  Decree

Hiram Lewis

Entered Page 470

J. R. Gibson D. C.

Enter this decree  
In aff

Aug 29<sup>th</sup> 1885



The deposition of Thomas Adams taken on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 1885 at the dwelling house of John W Morris in the County of Lee pursuant to notice hereto attached, before John W Morris a Justice of the peace in and for said County, which deposition is intended to be read as evidence on behalf of the Plaintiff in a suit in Chancery now pending in the Circuit Court of Lee County Va in which Lousia J Lewis is the Plaintiff and Hiram Lewis defendant.

Thomas Adams a witness of lawful age being first duly sworn deposes and says.

1 Question by Plaintiff. Are you acquainted with Lousia J. Lewis and Hiram Lewis her husband, who are the Plaintiff and defendant in the suit herein referred to.

Answer. yes Sir I am acquainted with them

2 Question by same. How long have you been acquainted with them.

Answer. I have been <sup>year or longer</sup> acquainted with them four or five

3 Question by same. Where does the said Hiram Lewis now live, and state if you know how long since he



abandoned ~~his~~ wife?

Answer. To the best of my knowledge he lives at Jane Heanes, and has abandoned his wife about three years

4 Question by same. Is it not a fact that the said Hiram Lewis is now making his home with one Jane Haynes a woman of loose virtue, living near Jonesville, and has he not been staying with the said Jane Haynes for a year or more.

Answer. That is my understanding, and my information is that he has been staying there a year or more

5. Question, by the same, Did you ever see the said Hiram Lewis, and the said Jane Haynes, bedding with each other. And state if it is not a fact that while you were carrying the mail for Lewis that the said Lewis made his home with the said Jane Haynes they living together like man and wife State all about it.

Answer. I have seen them bedding together about the last of my carrying the mail for Lewis he had his cloths there and was making his home there



and last fall while I carried the mail  
for James McKounel he was making his  
home there, and was living together as man & wife  
6<sup>th</sup> Question by same If you know  
of any acts of adultery committed  
by said Lewis with any other per-  
son. if so state all about it.

Answer. I have seen all signs of him being  
guilty of adultery with others & have  
seen all motions of the said & to the  
best of my knowledge he committed  
adultery

his  
Thomas & Adams  
mark

Virginia Lee County, to wit

I John W Morris a Justice of the  
Peace in and for the County and State  
aforesaid do Certify that the foregoing  
deposition of Thomas Adams was taken  
sworn <sup>to</sup> and subscribed before me on  
the day at the place and for the four  
purposes mentioned in the caption Given  
under my hand This the 10<sup>th</sup> day of  
August 1886-

John W Morris J.P.



Louisa J. Lewis  
vs  $\frac{1}{2}$  Depo.  
Hiram Lewis

Filed Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>

1885

J. C. Heston  
Att. C.

by J. C. Heston



The depositions of John Rutherford  
Thos. W. Glenon and John Thompson  
taken before me St. C. Justice a justice  
of the County of Lee on the 24<sup>th</sup> day  
of August 1885 at the <sup>law</sup> office of Duncan  
D. Pennington in the town of Louisville  
in pursuance to Notice duly attached  
wherein depositions are intended to be  
read as evidence in behalf of the  
Plaintiff in a suit in Chancery now  
pending in the Circuit Court of Lee  
County Va in which Louisa J. Lewis  
is Plaintiff and Hiram Lewis is  
Defendant.

John Rutherford, a witness of lawful  
age being duly sworn deposes and says:  
Question by Plaintiff Are you acquainted  
with Hiram Lewis, if so how long have  
you known him and where does he now  
make his home,

Answer

I am acquainted with Hiram  
Lewis. have been acquainted with  
him two or three years, he has been  
making his home with Jane  
Haynes since I became acquainted  
with him, I live near to the  
said Jane Haynes, and pass her  
house often, where I see the said



Lewis knocking about and acting like he was at home. The general reputation in our neighbourhood is that the said Lewis and Jane Haynes - are living together after the order of man and wife. The said Haynes has been for years known as a woman of bad repute.

And further this deponent doth not

Witness Claims  
1 day .50 cts

John<sup>ms</sup> Retherford  
<sup>onk</sup>

Thomas W. Fleenor another witness of lawful age being duly sworn deposes as follows,

Question by Plaintiff Are you acquainted with Hiram Lewis, how long have you known him ~~and~~ where has he been making his home for the last two or three years.

Answer. I am acquainted with Hiram Lewis, have known him about three years, he came into this section of the County about three years ago. From the Crab Orchard where I learn he had been living some ten or twelve years. Since he came into this neighbourhood general



reputation says he has been making his home with Jane Haynes a woman of bad repute who lives about two miles from Jonesville, a little more than a year ago I arrested said Lewis on a Capias. I found him at the House of the said Jane Haynes in the bed. This was just about daylight. We knocked at the door and after some time the said Jane Haynes opened the door and let us in. From the appearance of the bed in which Lewis was lying some one else had slept with him. I have seen the said Lewis at this place at various times in the last three years, all was apparently at home, And further this deponent saith not.

Thos. W. Fleeson

Witness

Claims 1 day  
50 cts

John Thompson another witness of lawful age being duly sworn deposes as follows.

I am acquainted with Abram Lewis <sup>I have known him</sup> about two years, during that time he has made his home with one Jane Haynes a woman



of bad repute and loose virtue  
living about two miles from  
Jonesville. I have frequently during  
that time, seen the said Lewis  
at said place, acting as if he  
was at home, he has on one  
or more occasions talked to me  
about the said Jane in which  
conversation he told me that  
the said Jane was true to  
him, and that he did not believe  
she had had anything to do with  
any other man since he had  
been living with her, on one  
occasion I went to the house of  
the said Jane Haynes after night  
and called for the said Lewis, he  
got up, come to the door, in  
his shirt and drawers, I did  
not go into the house and  
don't know who he had been  
sleeping with,

Witness

Claims / day  
50 cents.

And further this deponent saith not  
John <sup>his</sup> Thompson  
mark  
Virginia Lee County To wit:

I H. C. Fackler a Justice of the  
Peace for Lee County, State of  
Virginia, do certify that the



foregoing depositions of John  
Retherford, T. W. Fleenor and  
John Thompson, were taken  
sworn to and subscribed before  
me on the day, at the place  
and for the purposes mentioned  
in the Caption, given under my  
hand this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 1888:  
H. C. Goslyn J. P.



Louisa J. Lewis  
v { Depositions

Thirum Lewis.

Filed Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> 1888-

J. H. Hatt & Co.

J. P. Hatt

.75<sup>+</sup>



Hiram Lewis

Take notice, That  
I on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August  
1881 at the dwelling house of John  
H. Morris will proceed to take the  
deposition of Thomas Adams &  
others, which, when taken, I  
intend to be read as evidence in  
my behalf in a certain suit  
in chancery now pending in  
the Circuit Court of Lee coun-  
ty State of Virginia, in which  
Louisa Lewis is plaintiff and  
Hiram Lewis is defendant.

And if at from any cause  
the same be not commenced  
or if commenced, be not completed  
upon that day, the taking will  
be adjourned from time to time  
and from place to place un-  
til completed.

Very Respectfully  
Louisa Lewis by  
C. P. Duncanson



notice

Lewis & Lewis  
V.S. } Written  
Hiram Lewis

Executed by deliver  
ing a copy of the  
within note to Hiram  
Lewis Aug 5<sup>th</sup> 1880

John Flannery D.D.  
for R. D. Flannery, ed.

~~for Hiram~~  
Lewis



Mr Hiram Lewis

Please take notice that  
on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 1885  
at the law office of Newman & Purnaghan  
in the town of Jonesville I will proceed to take  
the deposition of John Rutherford, Joseph  
Harrill & others to be read as evidence in my  
behalf in a suit in chancery now pending  
in the Circuit Court of Lee County, Virginia  
in which I am plaintiff and you are  
defendant. You can attend and cross  
examine if you desire so to do.  
August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1885. Louisa F. Lewis by  
Counsel.



Louisa J. Lewis

W.S. } Foster

Hiram Lewis

Executed by deliver-  
ing a copy of the  
within motion

to Hiram Lewis

This Aug 24<sup>th</sup> 1885-

Given Flannery S<sup>g</sup>  
for R. D. Flannery S. L. C.

Recd

24. 74

24. 74



# The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of Lee County---Greeting:

WE COMMAND YOU to summon

*Hiram Lewis*

to appear at the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of Lee County, at the Court House, on the first Monday in  
*June* next, being Rule Day, to answer a Bill in Chancery exhibited in our Court against  
*him*, by

*Louisa J. Lewis*

And have then and there this Writ. Witness, J. A. G. HYATT, Clerk of our said Court, at the Court House,  
this *12<sup>th</sup>* day of *May*, 188*5*, in the 10*9* year of the Commonwealth.

*J. A. G. Hyatt*, Clerk.

A Copy---Teste :



Louisiana Lewis

vs  $\frac{3}{3}$  Spain Chey

Hiram Lewis.

To June Rules 1885

Executed by  
delivering an  
office copy of this  
Spa. to Hiram  
Lewis. May 16<sup>th</sup>  
1885.

R. D. Flanagan  
S. L. C.